# **2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

## CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD

# INTRODUCTION

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Historic Preservation Board (HPB) was established to enhance the community's local historic resources and promote the public health, safety, prosperity and welfare through the protection and preservation of the City's architectural, historic and cultural heritage. This report provides an overview of activities and highlights of program activities that the Board and staff to the Board have accomplished during 2017.

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Shane Allerheiligen David Bailey Christopher Endreson (Chair) Priscilla Mangnall Jody Motz Ron Parron Troy Reynolds Brandon Stam Scott Wolford

#### **PRIMARY DUTIES**

The Board's primary duties are to:

- 1) Establish a City Register listing designated structures, sites and districts; and
- 2) Provide educational opportunities to increase public appreciation of Grand Junction's unique heritage.

The Board also reviews proposed alterations to designated sites as necessary. It is comprised of five to seven members appointed by City Council, and includes one member from the Downtown Development Authority Board or staff.

Community Development staff organizes and helps manage Board activities including the Historic Preservation Board's monthly meetings. In addition, staff addresses historic preservation interests in the community, helps address and provide information to the general public and reviews development projects, as necessary.

The Historic Preservation Board meets monthly on the first Tuesday of the month or for special meetings as needed to review development proposals. The discussion below summarizes general projects, activities and accomplishments of the Board as well as highlights some of the larger projects that the Board has been involved in.

### BOARD AND STAFF GENERAL ACTIVITIES

During 2017, general operations and activities of staff and the Board included:

- 3 new members were appointed and a chair selected for 2018
- Staff and several Board members participated in the planning process for the Strategic Cultural Plan that was directed by the Parks and Recreation Department and completed in early 2017.
- Staff regularly responds to inquiries by the public via phone, email or counter visits regarding Historic Preservation.
- On behalf of the Board and with comment from the Board as needed, staff responds to requests for comment on federal- or state-related capital projects or other projects requiring review (e.g. communications facilities) for potential impact on historic resources.
- Staff completed historic preservation review as part of the required Environmental Review for all Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) activities funded for the 2017 Program Year as well as ongoing activities from previous program years.
- Staff completed an annual report to History Colorado/State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the environmental reviews conducted July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017 per the City and State's Programmatic Agreement established in 2015.
- Staff updated the Historic Preservation Program page on the City's web site.
- The Board discussed and responded to a request from Colorado Mesa University (CMU) for ideas regarding subjects for Public History course work during the Spring 2018 term. The Board will continue to work with the class as it progresses.

### DOWNTOWN HISTORIC BUILDING MARKERS

Staff and members of the Board continued to participate in the local committee that is working on signs to be placed on downtown historic sites and buildings. The first phase of the project includes developing plaques for 33 sites or buildings. The first installation occurred in March 2017. Owners of the other sites/buildings have been contacted, and the signs for approximately half of the remaining buildings are approved and in fabrication.



#### DOE ATOMIC ENERGY COMPLEX

Staff and the Board received regular progress updates in 2017 on the DOE Atomic Energy Legacy Learning Center during Environmental Review, 30% Design and 60% Design stages. The project entails upgrade and remodel of the Cabin that was utilized during the Manhattan Project as well as construction of a new building to be a learning center about the role the Grand Junction area played in the Project. The updates have been requested as part of the Federal Section 106 process required for the historic site to be upgraded and developed.





#### SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND PROPERTIES

Staff and Board members toured the D&RGW Depot and received regular progress updates in 2017 from the property owner. Staff also led a tour of D&RGW Depot for the annual Board meeting of Colorado Preservation, Inc.

The Board toured the First Church of Christ, Scientist in the North Seventh Street Historic Residential District which may be placed on the market for sale in 2018.



### TRANSITIONING DOWNTOWN

Staff provided the Board a briefing regarding the Greater Downtown Plan and Overlay and how policies, guidelines and standards relate to historic preservation activities and regulations.

Several downtown residents were invited to and gave a presentation at a regular meeting regarding preservation concerns with historic buildings and neighborhoods, focused on the downtown. The Board expressed interest in helping with formation of a historic district if residents would like to pursue designation.

The Board received information and updates on Colorado Creative Industries (CCI) activities that is a project of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA).



### LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Staff began working with the Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association to expand the boundaries of the existing local historic district within the neighborhood.

### CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS REVIEW

Under the adopted Design Guidelines and Standards, the Board is tasked with review and final action on changes made to buildings and properties within the North Seventh Street Historic Residential District. During 2017, the Board reviewed and approved two such proposals: one at 621 North 7th Street and one at 639 North 7th Street, both for landscaping and fencing modifications.

